intelligence

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DCI-IC 74-1152

9 December 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Chalmers

SUBJECT : Submitting Project SAFE to IR&D Council - Goulder
Letter to Wilson

    1. Attached is an advance copy of subject letter from Goulder
dated 2 December. It was received by ICS Registry on Friday, 6 De-
STAT cember. [   ] has the Action copy and intended to report it
in this morning's DCI Staff meeting. Thereafter, he is sending it
to me, according to his comments in today's staff meeting.

    2. Attached, also, is my memorandum of 4 December (DCI-IC 74-1148)
STAT [   ] reporting on this matter. I have not yet heard from

    3. Likewise herewith is my memorandum of 29 November (DCI-IC
74-1145) reporting initial ASD(I) reactions, that have now been
reduced to writing in Goulder's memorandum to Wilson.

    4. Finally, here is your personal copy of the CIA/Central Re-
ference Service report on Project SAFE, dated October 1974 (C).

    5. At today's staff meeting, [   ] told you and me that
STAT we should get together with [   ] (and he also included Ge-
neral Kulpa in the group). [   ] indicated that the DCI's attitude
was to be willing that the IR&D Council should look into this,
but he apparently expressed the caveat that he did not want a long
and involved action that would unreasonably interfere with generally
moving ahead with what he saw in the first instance as a CIA internal
project. At least, I think this is the gist of the thing.

    6. I understand from the ASD(I) office that at the IR&D Council
meeting last week some action was taken to look into SAFE-like com-
munity activities. I have no details.

    7. This is clearly very political as well as technically complex.

    8. As soon as I get the Action copy of Goulder's 2 December memo-
STAT randum, plus [   ] guidance, I will share it with you and
Chuck, and we should plan to get together.

STAT

Attachments (to addressee only) (4)
Distribution: Chairman IHC
STAT   1 - [   ] / 1-ICS Registry
  1 - IHC Subject (SAFE)/ 1-IHC Reading

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

2 December 1974

INTELLIGENCE

Lieutenant General Samuel V. Wilson
Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence
  Community
Washington, D. C.   20505

Dear Sam:

(U)   Thank you for the Project SAFE Report.   I took advantage of your
offer and saw the SAFE project demonstration in company with my staff
and the program managers of COINS and IDHS.

(U)   We were impressed with the capability that has been achieved with
a minimum of extra hardware and software support.   I believe that all of
us were once more made aware of the commonality of community problems
and the need to bring more effective support to our analysts.

(C)   However, there are many problems common to the community that
surfaced during our discussions:

(C)   a.   Software is most expensive -- it may run 50-100 million
per system.   Software commonality between our systems can achieve large
dollar savings.

(C)   b.   Programs are so complex that machine language software
may be necessary while machine independent software is needed if we are
to effect major cost savings.

(C)   c.   Is it necessary to standardize on our hardware to effect
software commonality or will the next generation of hardware permit use
of machine independent languages for software?

(U)   d.   There are many similar programs in government and
industry in various stages of development and operation.   The challenge
is to make this work mutually supportive rather than mutually exclusive.

(U)   e.   A system to usefully help analysts in a cost effective
manner will have to evolve with much interaction between users and
generators of software.

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(C)   f.   New software provides an opportunity to support USIB activities for intelligence data standards, file standards, etc.

(C)   In view of the above, the importance of providing modern technology to aid the analyst, the wide community interest, and the magnitude of the overall program, it is suggested that the Intelligence R&D Council be utilized to recommend how modern technology might help the analyst and how to best employ our overall community assets and ongoing activities to effect the desired solutions.

(U)   I should be happy to discuss this subject further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Morton E. Goulder
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Intelligence and Warning Systems)

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